

HOUSE BILL 2004

By Terry

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 50
and Title 63, relative to reporting related to
controlled substances.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 1, is amended by adding
the following as a new part:

63-1-601.

(a) The department of health shall establish, maintain, and publicize a toll-free
telephonic and web-based hotline for the purpose of receiving allegations of opioid
abuse or diversion.

(b) Any entity that prescribes, dispenses, or handles opioids shall display in a
prominent place, a sign at least eleven inches (11") in height and seventeen inches (17")
in width stating:

NOTICE: PLEASE REPORT ANY SUSPECTED ABUSE OR DIVERSION OF
OPIOIDS, OR ANY OTHER IMPROPER BEHAVIOR WITH RESPECT TO OPIOIDS,
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S TOLL-FREE HOTLINE:

[NUMBER OF HOTLINE]

(c) The department shall refer reports received through the hotline to the
appropriate health-related board or law enforcement official.

(d) As used in this section, "hotline" means a method or system created or
established to accept any telephonic or electronic form of communication that is
communicated to the department of health, for the purposes of identifying potential
opioid abuse or diversion.

63-1-602.

(a) No employee of an entity that prescribes, dispenses, or handles opioids shall be discharged or terminated solely for reporting information in good faith to the hotline established in § 63-1-601.

(b) No person licensed under this title shall suffer an adverse licensure action solely for reporting information in good faith to the hotline established in § 63-1-601.

(c) A person who reports information in good faith to the hotline established in § 63-1-601 is immune from civil liability related to the report.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2019, the public welfare requiring it.